



ANN LANDERS

Just Say Good Luck

Dear Ann Landers: Six months ago my husband's sister Janet announced that her mind was made up—she was going into a convent. The family decided to give her a big going away shower. We all figured since we wouldn't have to buy her a wedding present or baby gifts we'd go all out.

Two weeks ago Janet came out of the convent and decided to marry the boy she had been going with before she chose the religious life. They plan to marry in September. There are now plans for a big bridal shower. Then, of course, there will be the wedding gift, and naturally baby gifts will follow. Do you think this is fair? —MEAGER BANK ACCOUNT

Dear Meager: Do you feel Janet should stay single to save friends and relatives the price of a shower gift? I don't. Those in the family who don't wish to spend any more money on her can convey their best wishes and let it go at that.

Dear Ann Landers: Sometimes I think you take a stand you don't believe just to provoke controversy. I strongly suspect you did just that when you told the daughter whose father had been a selfish, no good bum all of his life that she should take care of him in his old age.

I have lived through the same mess as the person who wrote and I consider myself an authority on rotten fathers. Unless you have grown up with alcoholism, screaming, fighting, breaking of furniture and dishes, you can't imagine what it's like. I remember Mama taking me and my little brother next door—in the middle of night, wrapped in a blanket. Father had been beating her with his fists and threatened to set the house on fire.

Mom died when I was 13. My brother and I went to live with an aunt. Father disappeared for 10 years and I can truthfully say nobody missed him. Now I am happily married and have two small children.

Father turned up six months ago. He lives in a shabby rooming house on the other end of town. He has criticized me to the family because I will not take him into our nice home and let him enjoy his grandchildren. I have him to dinner once in a while and it's all I can stand. My husband has nothing to say to him and my children fear him. He told me last time he was here that I should read the Bible more, especially the part that says, "Honor thy father and thy mother."

Please stop playing to the grandstand and answer me honestly. Is a married daughter obligated to take in an aged parent who has never done anything but cause misery and trouble? —WAITING TO HEAR

Dear Waiting: I have never recommended that a married daughter or son move an aged parent into the home when the relationship is poor. This can only lead to trouble. What I did say, however, is that a child has the moral obligation to see to it that parents do not go hungry or without shelter—and the advice stands.

Dear Ann Landers: My cousin, who is always putting on airs got a fur stole for Mother's Day. She told everyone it was Siberian mink. The first time she wore it she got caught in the rain. It has smelled musty—like skunk—ever since. Can it be that her stole is actually not mink, but something a little less fancy? —SUSPICIOUS

Dear Sus: Mink is a member of the weasel family and so is the skunk, the muskrat and a few other less glamorous cousins. They all smell musty when rained upon—even their Siberian relatives.



DIRK DAVIDSON Has Brief Movie Career

Dirk's Movie Career Ends After Two Days on Camera

By HANNAH SAMPSON Special to the Press-Herald "When the Parade Passes By" in the movie that 20th Century-Fox in the film "Hello Dolly," look for Dirk Davidson of Torrance among the smartly marching drummers on the far right of the screen.

One of the many thousands of extras recruited locally from universities, junior colleges, and high schools, Dirk spent two days last week on the realistic set built on 20th's home lot. The

set depicts New York City in the 1890s.

Dirk made certain to investigate and found blank pages behind the printed front pages of the 1890 newspapers. He also found the "concrete and rock" pillars and posts that support the railway responded hollowly to a brisk tap of the knuckles. Nothing was what it seemed to be, yet everything together made the "real" city. Too young to have known such a place, Dirk said he felt he had been there before.

Why does a young man take time out of his busy schedule — Torrance Youth Band, where he plays drums and is assistant drum major; honors student at West High —to go to the other end of the city to march some more?

Dirk grinned. "For the experience. For the money: I earned more in two days than I could at odd jobs in the summer. And who would not want to be in on the making of a big picture like 'Hello Dolly'?"

Although there are many legends concerning the difficulty of getting past the security guards at a studio, the marching band extras had no trouble at all because they arrived already wearing the uniforms for which they had been fitted the week before. The elaborate white and gold affairs were their "passes." They were afoot. Cars had been parked at public garages four blocks away, at studio expense, for no detail it appeared, was too small to be overlooked.

TAKE THE box lunch. More than 4,200 lunches were served on the lot, and eaten in the shelter of gigantic tents. Stars, featured players, technical crew, lowly extras: the lunch was the same for all. So what does a star eat for lunch? Turkey sandwich, bologna, hard egg, potato salad, fresh peach, brownie, potato chips, milk, all courtesy of the studio. So it's nice work if you can get it.

Not that there was much work to it, according to Dirk. The work day began at 7:30 and ended at 3:30. Actual time marching, rehearsing, and filming for Dirk's group was only 90 minutes each day, because only a small segment of the

band could be directed and photographed at a time within camera range. The rest of the time, Dirk says, he watched—fascinated.

Although all of the young band extras are musicians and accustomed to march and play at the same time, the music they made was not recorded, but will be "dubbed" in later by professionals.

NO STRANGER to important public events (the Torrance Area Youth Band won the Mayor's Trophy and Best of Show awards in the Armed Forces Day Parade in Torrance, and was selected to play at the opening day ceremonies at the Sacramento State Fair early this month while Governor Reagan cut the ribbon), Dirk was nonetheless impressed by the seriousness of the movie makers in their obvious determination to have it all just right for the camera.

The \$64 question: Was the star—rumored to be very temperamental — visible to lowly extras? The answer is "Yes." Kirk watched Barbra Streissand as she rehearsed a number. Miss Streissand seemed "very businesslike and busy and serious" in what she was doing. Walter Matthau, the co-star, was more interesting, said Dirk, for he had never seen Miss Streissand perform but had been a "fan" of Matthau through television and the movies.

Actor-dancer Gene Kelly directed the marching band in a competent and funny way and evidently did a good job. "Too good," Dirk grinned ruefully, "because in his competence he was able to bring the scene in two days ahead of schedule. Cut my salary in half!"

Your Second Front Page
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Two More O'Neills Sign Up

Brian and Steve O'Neill, sons of Lt. Gen. John W. O'Neill, have entered the Air Force. General O'Neill is commander of the Air Force Space and Missile Systems Organization in El Segundo.

Brian has been commissioned a captain in the Air Force Medical Corps upon graduation from the University of St. Louis Medical School.

Steve was graduated last month from the Air Force Academy Preparatory School and will enter the Air Force Academy in September.

Chace's Deputy Promoted

Ken Johnson, of 4926 Jacques St., who has served as deputy to County Supervisor Burton Chace for two years, has been named assistant chief deputy, succeeding Howard Jones, who recently left county service.

Johnson, 31, is past president of the South Bay Athletic Club, and is a charter member of that group's Board of Directors. He was also 1963 vice president of the Redondo Beach Junior Chamber of Commerce.

He was selected Young Man of the Year for Redondo Beach in 1965, and is the author of "Fun, Frustration and Fulfillment," a historical study of Redondo Beach.

A native of Southern California, the former newspaperman attended Los Angeles City College where he majored in journalism.

COUNT MARCO

You Deserve at Least A Week All by Yourself

A woman asked me at a lecture I gave recently whether I thought husbands should take separate vacations. I said no, it is the wives who should take separate vacations.

There is a difference. He should stay home to see what it might be like without you around the house.

I can't imagine what gets into American couples when you sit down to plan a vacation. You can't really call it a vacation, because all you're doing is exchanging one horror for another.

You pile yourself, the children and hundreds of other items of clutter into a car and head for the crowded highways.

After endless hours of nerve-racking driving you arrive at your destination, which is usually the home of some relative—a mother,

Good Neighbors

Help Sought for Homeless Children

Torrance families are currently being sought by "Around the Clock" Service to provide emergency, temporary care for nondelinquent children who are the victims of circumstance.

Torrance has only two such "Good Neighbor" homes at present, and when these are filled, local children in need of immediate care must be taken to homes far from this area.

The search for Good Neighbor homes is being conducted by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services in cooperation with the Torrance Police Department.

YOUNGSTERS in need of homes may have been abandoned or mistreated by their parents. In other cases, children are left temporarily homeless by the murder, su-

icide, hospitalization, or arrest of one or both parents.

The average length of a child's stay is 16 days. Some remain only one or two days, while others need to stay longer to insure satisfactory permanent placement. Approximately half the children placed are subsequently returned to their own homes.

Before the Good Neighbor program was instituted, unfortunate children were placed in juvenile institutional facilities while homeless.

THE GOOD Neighbor is reimbursed for expenses of each child placed, which amounts to about \$3 for 24 hours. Additional money is provided for clothing and medical care.

Since the program was in-

stituted, more than 2,700 children have been welcomed into Good Neighbor homes by local law enforcement agencies.

Any Torrance family interested in participating in the program may write to the Good Neighbor Program, Room 100, 501 North Main St., Los Angeles, Cal. 90012.

Profile: Stuart Marsee

College Mushrooms on Energy and Enthusiasm

Seated at a mahogany desk in his warmly appointed office at El Camino College, Dr. Stuart E. Marsee is anything but the stodgy, bespectacled little fellow one might picture as the typical college president.

Marsee's shock of red hair and freckled complexion add to that image of energy and enthusiasm that make him seem more like a student than chief administrator of the bustling junior college that serves communities from Torrance to Inglewood. And it's that same energy and enthusiasm that's made such an impact on the development of El Camino College since Marsee took the reins ten years ago.

Under Marsee's leadership, the school's enrollment has leaped from 9,600 to an estimated 16,000 full- and part-time students this fall. Marsee has also supervised the building of a host of new structures and building additions, and seen the development of a new nursing school and an enlarged summer program.

Dr. Marsee's enthusiasm seems to stem from his fervent belief in his work. He likes to compare the junior college with the "tomboy next door" who suddenly "grew up and became beautiful and popular." And judging from the number of local young people and adults who chose to advance their education there, El Camino most certainly be counted among the most popular of the junior colleges.

Marsee points out that 39 per cent of Torrance High's 1967 graduating class of 440 students enrolled at El Camino College the following fall. That figure has been as high as 48 per cent in prior years.

Other Torrance high schools also sent scores of young graduates to the green, shaded campus last



STUART E. MARSEE

fall. Class percentage figures are South High, 32 per cent; North High, 36 per cent; and West High, 40 per cent.

For all his years in the ivory tower of academia, Stuart Marsee hasn't forgotten the realities of student life. The native Oregonian worked his way through college in the 30s, doing everything from logging to clerical work. He's proud of having worked as a "gandy dancer" on a railroad repair crew and toting bales as a longshoreman. He even served as a "whistle punk," the lowest job at a logging camp.

With a bachelor's degree from the University of Oregon in hand, Marsee had already begun his teaching career before completing work on his master's degree from the same school in 1942. The future college president earned his doctorate in education from USC in 1947.

For the next 10 years, Pasadena City College would be his college home. Dr. Marsee served as a counselor and psychology instructor for three years, working his way up to assistant superintendent for

business service and later to acting superintendent and assistant superintendent of Pasadena City Schools.

Service to education and to the community have been of central importance in Dr. Marsee's life. He is currently president of the American Association of Junior Colleges, a mammoth organization encompassing some 800 schools. For the past four years, he has served as a member of the steering committee of the UCLA Junior College Leadership Program and boasts a long list of organizational work in his field.

Dr. Marsee is listed in Who's Who in America, Who's Who in California, Leaders in Education, and Who's Who in Education.

A prolific writer for educational periodicals, Dr. Marsee is a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award of the county's Board of Supervisors for his contribution to education.

Dr. Marsee is a Rotarian of 18 years standing and has served on the Torrance Rotary board of directors for the past four years. He has also been active in Boy Scout leadership, PTA, YMCA, Red Cross, the Salvation Army, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, and Redondo Beach Round Table.

At home in Torrance, Dr. Marsee and his wife Audrey have three sons. The oldest, Frederic, 26, holds a M.A. in psychology; the second, Jeffrey, 19, is a scholarship student and track star at USC; and the youngest, Wayne, 15, is a student at South High.

Completing the family circle is a Tibetan temple dog, Chang, a tiny species with long hair in its eyes.

Dr. Marsee lists bicycle riding as his chief hobby and thinks nothing of pedaling to Marineland or El Segundo on a Sunday afternoon.